

Century  
Farm



# CENTURY FARM PROGRAM

To recognize Maryland's agricultural heritage of farm families who have operated the same farm for a century or longer.

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## Criteria

- The farm must be owned by the same family for at least 100 consecutive years to the date of the application; the farm must be lived on, or actually farmed by, a descendent of the original owner.
- The farm must consist of at least 10 acres of the original holding, and gross over \$2,500 annually from the sale of farm products
- Applications must include copies of legal descriptions, found in deeds, abstracts or tax statements, which indicate consecutive ownership.

## Process

- Applications are available by contacting the Maryland Department of Agriculture or by visiting [www.mda.maryland.gov](http://www.mda.maryland.gov)
- Applicant completes and submits entry to the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Attn: Century Farm Program, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401. A family may apply at any time throughout the year.
- The Century Farm Committee will review all the applications and approve eligible entries. The Secretary of Agriculture will certify approved applications, and recognize families annually. Application will be held at the Maryland Department of Agriculture for future research.

## Benefits

Each family will be invited to participate in an awards ceremony conducted by the Secretary of Agriculture; receive a certificate signed by the Governor and the Secretary of Agriculture; be listed on the Century Farms plaque at the Maryland Department of Agriculture; and receive a sign suitable for posting on the farm (*Families eligible for listing in the State or National Registers of Historic Places receive additional benefits; see section*)

### Questions?

If you have any further questions about the program, please contact MDA at (410) 841-5882

## Century Farm Historic Structures Award (Optional)

If your farm includes historic buildings or structures, you may apply for a special Century Farm Historic Structures Award. A farm qualifies if it has four standing buildings (house, barn, granary, chicken coop, etc.) or structures (windmill, corral, etc.) that are more than 100 years old and have not been significantly altered.

- ☐ Check here if you are applying for the Century Farm Historic Structures Award

Please attach current photographs of all qualifying farm buildings or structures and label with name of building and date of construction. Copies of historic photographs may be included.

## State and National Registers of Historic Places

The State and National Registers are lists of properties acknowledged by the Government as worthy of recognition and preservation for their significance in American history and culture, and are administered locally by the Maryland Historical Trust. Benefits of listing include formal recognition that a property is of significance; consideration in the planning for federally and state assisted projects and surface coal mining permits; eligibility for state and federal income tax benefits (investment, donation and rehabilitation); eligibility to apply for federal and state grants or loans for preservation projects.

- ☐ Check here if you would like information on State and National Registers of Historic Places.

## Authorization/Notary

I (We)\_\_\_\_\_ state that the above statements are true and correct with regard to the land noted. Furthermore, I (we) grant the Maryland Department of Agriculture to use any material submitted in or with this application, in any printed material, media presentation, or other information prepared for public dissemination.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant(s)

STATE OF MARYLAND, County of \_\_\_\_\_, to wit: I HEAREBY CERTIFY that on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, before me, a Notary Public in and for the State aforesaid, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that he/she/they executed the same for the purposes therein contained. AS WITNESS my hand and notary seal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

# Century Farm Application

(Please Print or Type)

## Name of Property

Current Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Names Used: \_\_\_\_\_

## Location of Property

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

◇ Legible copy attached with legal description of land from deed, abstract or tax statement.

## Application Prepared By

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

## Committee Action

- ◇ Application is recommended for Century Farm Program
- ◇ Application is recommended for Century Farm Historic Structures Award
- ◇ Application does not meet Program criteria due to: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Department of Agriculture Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ◇ Entered into the Century Farm Program
- ◇ Granted the Century Farm Historic Structures Award
- ◇ Not accepted and application to be returned to petitioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of Agriculture

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Property Information

1. Property Owner:  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name for Certificate/Plaque: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Date your ancestors originally obtained property:  
 Family member who currently lives on and/or farms property: \_\_\_\_\_

3. List all family owners, beginning with the first owner, to present:

**Note: Documentation must show continuous linkage of ownership, i.e., conveyance information listed in your deed(s).**

Date of Transfer	Name	Relationship to You	Legal Description enclosed (✓)

4. Does the farm gross over \$2,500 annually in the sale of farm goods? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

5. Number of Acres in the Farm:

Originally: \_\_\_\_\_ Currently: \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Refer to your deed(s) for this information)**

6. What was the original, and is the current, land use of the property?

Land Use	Original	Current	Comments (optional)
Crop Land	_____ %	_____ %	
Development	_____ %	_____ %	
Floodplain/ Wetlands	_____ %	_____ %	
Pasture	_____ %	_____ %	
Woodland	_____ %	_____ %	
Other _____	_____ %	_____ %	

# Historical Information

Information you add to this form will be the most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other date or stories concerning the farm and the nearby area.

1. Was your family the first owner/ settler on the land? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did your family originally obtain the land?
  - ◇ Gift                                      ◇ Homestead
  - ◇ Purchase                                ◇ Will
  - ◇ Other, please explain \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. If purchased, from whom? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the cost of the land per acre? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many acres were in the original parcel? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Where was the first family owner born? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Where did he/she live prior to moving onto the farm? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Did the first owner farm the land? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Did he/she engage in any trades or occupations other than farming? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. How many children did he/she have? \_\_\_\_\_  
What were the children's names and where did they move? (List below)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. List the names and dates of any tenant farmers who operated the farm:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Historical Information

12. Describe any archeological resources that have been found on the property:

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13. Is the original home or any portion of it, or other original buildings, still standing or currently in use?

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14. When was the present home built? \_\_\_\_\_

15. List and briefly describe all of the buildings on the farm and provide an approximate date of construction:

Building	Date of Construction

16. What crops have been grown on the farm?

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17. What types of livestock have been raised on the farm?

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18. For what other agricultural uses has the farm been utilized for?

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(Attach additional sheets as necessary)

# Historical Information

19. List the name and date agricultural programs participated in by the owners on the farm (i.e., Soil and Water Conservation, Forestry Management, Best Management Practices, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF), CREP, Cover Crop Program):

Program	Date

20. Currently what crops are grown on the farm?

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21. Has the farm or farm owner received any awards for agricultural stewardship?

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22. Please list other related information and/or interesting historical facts:

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